

Town of Trumbull
Economic and Community Development Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 4th 2014 7:15pm
Trumbull Town Hall

Commission: Bernard Klem, Rob McGowan, Eric Michel, Ralph Sather, Evelyn Zamar

Staff: Economic and Community Development Director Edward Lavernoich

Chairman Ralph Sather called the meeting to order at 7:17 PM.

Ms. Zamar made a motion to correct the date of the May 7th meeting minutes to 2014. The motion was seconded by Mr. Klem and unanimously approved. Ms. Zamar then made a motion to approve the May 7th minutes with the correct date, seconded by Mr. Klem, and unanimously approved.

Mr. Lavernoich reported to the commission on current business development activity within the town as of the end of May. The C-PACE application pending for 20 Nutmeg Drive and stated that it is near approval. An increase of the marketing effort for the C-PACE program is planned for the coming weeks. The First Selectman participated in a ribbon cutting event on May 15th at 140 Monroe Turnpike. The Building Department and Fire Marshall were scheduled to make a final inspection of the solar installation at Insports, 29 Trefoil Drive, on Monday June 9th. The construction of the garage for the Bridgeport Hospital Cancer Outpatient Center is approximately two-thirds completed and that construction of the 95,000 square foot of additional space for the new office space in Trumbull may begin in the fall of 2014. A June submission to the P&Z commission is expected by the MF Discala Company for their new plan to have a single story commercial building without residents. Robert D Scinto's plans for 35 Nutmeg Drive were discussed. Mr. Lavernoich shared a letter that he wrote to the P&Z Commission in support of Scinto's project.

The 2014 Business Appreciation Breakfast was held on May 14th. There were approximately 140 people in attendance. Mr. Klem stated that the room was the perfect size for the amount of people in attendance. The commission discussed possible improvements that could be made for next year and one of the suggestions was to have a comment box. Overall, the commission thought the breakfast was a success.

The commission reports on the 2014 Business in Bloom Award winners. They are the following: ZetrOz Inc, Parker. Steak & Scotch, Insports, The Edge Fitness Club of Trumbull, Chip's of Trumbull, Prime 111, Dr. Ronika Choudhary, OBGYN, Ennis Experience, Kidambi & Associates, Flowers by Danielle, Rockin' Jump, and Robert D. Scinto, Inc – 112 Quarry Road. The commission was very pleased with the winners and the progress that these businesses have made during the past year.

The Society of Industrial and Office Realtors Event will be held on June 10th. Mr.

Lavernoich told the commission that the event is open to members if any of them would like to attend. The first tee time will start around 11:30 a.m at Tashua Knolls Golf course, followed by a 6:30pm dinner at Marisa's Restaurant in Trumbull.

The commission discussed the Database Project. It was the primary form of invitation to the Business Appreciation Breakfast. Mr. Lavernoich reported that there are approximately 270 total contacts in the database. Mr. Sather suggested that the commission set up a plan to maintain the database (ie. intern). Mr. Sather asked that Ms. Kaufman and Mr. Klem provide a report on the electronic update/newsletter for the upcoming meeting.

Mr. Sather reviewed the 2014 E&CD Commission Goals. It was noted that the contact database has made good progress and was extremely helpful for the Business Appreciation Breakfast (as mentioned earlier). Mr. Michel made a suggestion to invite commercial realtors to meetings to provide feedback on the town and the Commission's activities. Mr. Lavernoich reported that there were 2 recent grant successes for the Town of Trumbull: a FEMA grant for \$80,000 for a defibrillator, and a grant for the renovation of the Mary J. Sherlach Counseling Center. He also reported that an application had been filed in conjunction with the Kennedy Center for site work on its property. Overall, the commissioners expressed satisfaction with the progress made on achieving 2014 goals.

Mr. Sather asked if there was any community input, recognizing resident Paul Griffith, as well as John Georgas. Mr. Griffith stated that the Business Appreciation Breakfast went well and he thought it was a beneficial event on behalf of the Town of Trumbull. He discussed a website that he had involvement with that could be useful in exposing the Town to investors from outside of the area. Mr. Georgas also added that the event was a great experience and he was honored to be able to attend. He also stated that the comment box would be a beneficial idea for future events like the Business Appreciation Breakfast.

There was a consensus among those present that the regularly scheduled meeting on July 2nd should be re-scheduled, as several commissioners would be unable to attend. A tentative date of July 9th was discussed. Mr. Lavernoich stated that he would investigate room availability for that date. The commission agreed that the next meeting should be held on the 9th, if a room was available.

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Pisinski made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Klem and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:36 P.M.